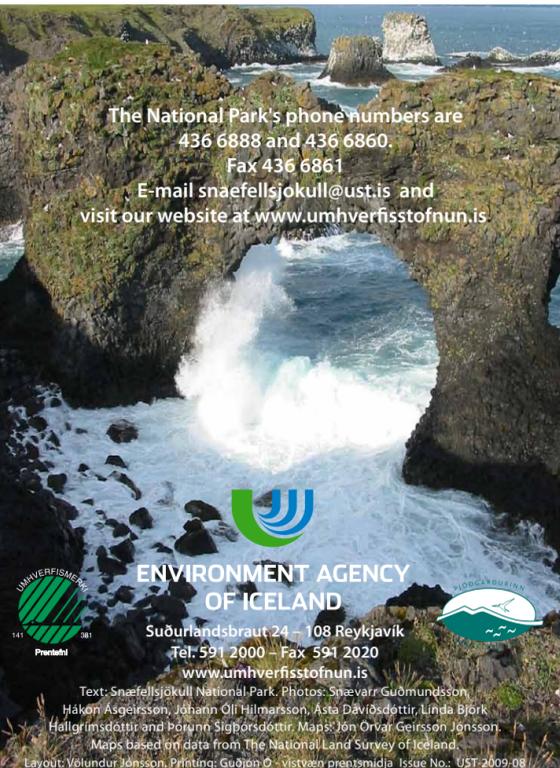


Trails in Snæfellsjökull National Park



The National Park's phone numbers are 436 6888 and 436 6860. Fax 436 6861. E-mail snæfellsjökull@ust.is and visit our website at www.umhverfisstofnun.is



Where shall we go?

There are many hiking trails in and around Snæfellsjökull National Park, and you are sure to find something suitable. Some are clearly marked, and most routes are easy to follow. You can make your own route by joining a series of trails. Please remember that there are few sources of drinking water in the National Park, so you should take an adequate supply of water when you set off. Hikers who intend to spend several days following longer routes are requested to inform National Park staff of their route and schedule before starting their trip.

Take care – there are many natural dangers. Be especially alert in these areas:

- Snæfellsjökull Glacier
- lava fields
- cliffs
- the seashore

Equipment

Make sure you are appropriately prepared for the length of the trail you will follow. The following basic equipment is recommended for day trips:

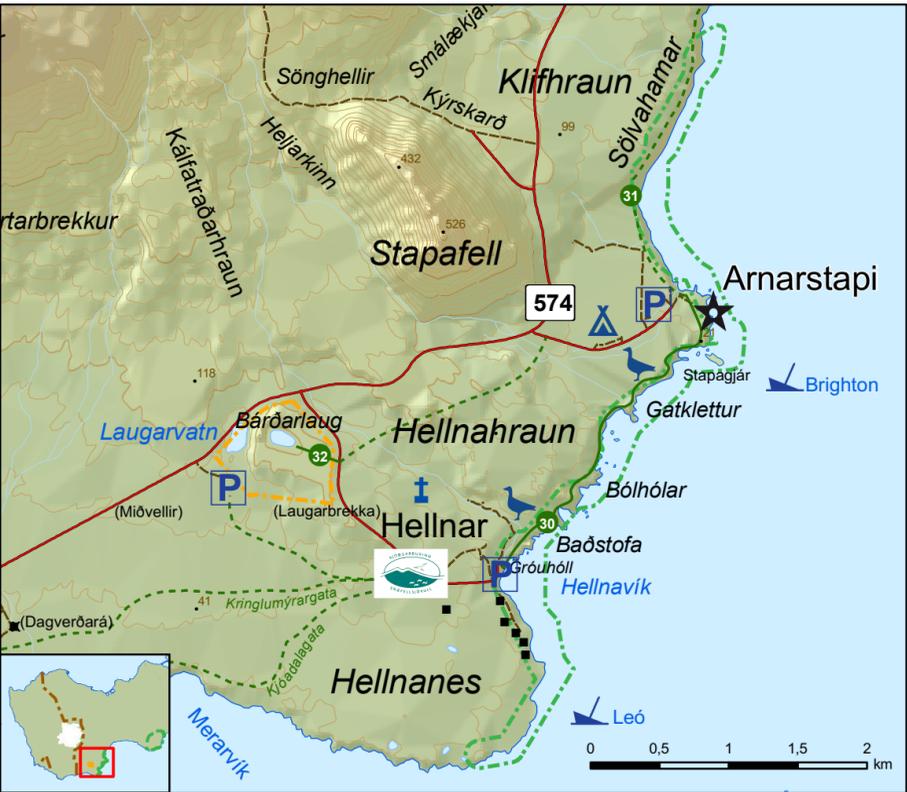
- » Sturdy shoes
- » Water bottle filled with water
- » Light waterproof clothing
- » Hiking poles
- » Binoculars
- » Camera
- » Spare pair of socks
- » Sunglasses
- » Plasters
- » Compass/GPS unit
- » Maps



1. Írskrbrunnur – Gufuskálavör – Fiskbyrgi

CIRCULAR ROUTE
2 KM / 1 HOUR IN TOTAL

Old well, farm ruins and fish storage huts beside the lava field. This trail starts from the car park at Írskrbrunnur. After visiting the well, head in the direction of Gufuskálavör. This is an easy 10-minute walk past an old rural rubbish tip. Boats rowed out from this coast in past centuries and their keels left grooves on the rocky shore. Continue past the remains of the farm at Gufuskálavör to the fish storage huts on the edge of the lava field. Take care when crossing the main road. The walk from Gufuskálavör to the huts takes about 25 minutes. The final section passes through the lava. Return to Írskrbrunnur.





2. Móðuvör – Skarðsvík – Öndverðarnes

TRAIL WITH CAIRNS
4 KM / 2–3 HRS.

An old track between Gufuskálar and Öndverðarnes. The route passes a charming, sheltered cove with golden sand. A number of fishing and farming relics can be seen at Öndverðarnes. An old well, known as Fálki is an ancient water source. Many bird species nest in the area. Gannets dive for food and whales can sometimes be seen from the shore.

3. Öndverðarnes – Skálasnagi

2 KM / 1 HRS.

A trail through a black lava field. An old fox trap built with lava stands near the trail. Birds have colonised the cliffs known as Svörtuloft.



4. Skálasnagi – Beruvík

6 KM / 3 HRS.

A lighthouse stands near the start, and further south there are relics from the time when men collected eggs and birds from the cliff face. This is a difficult route over rough lava. Charming tarns lie in Beruvík where there is a deserted settlement.

5. Öndverðarneshólar – Vatnsborg – Grashóshellir

CIRCULAR ROUTE
6 KM / 3 HRS. IN TOTAL

Start from the signposted car park at Öndverðarnes. A marked path leads past the lava to Vatnsborg. Caves and lush pockets of plant life abound in the lava. Vatnsborg is a bracken-filled crater encircled by crags. The trail leads on to Grashóll then along Nesgata, an old cairned track, returning to the start along the road. The craters and plant life are sensitive to disturbance – please keep to the signposted footpaths.

6. Beruvík – Öndverðarnes via Neshraun

TRAIL WITH CAIRNS
6–8 KM / 3 HRS.

Start from the car park near Lambhagatjarnir. Follow the old track known as Nesgata to Öndverðarnes. Cairns mark the way. Cuttings and paving are evident in the southerly section between Moldflögur and Grashóshellir. The track continues for 6 km to the Öndverðarnes road – an additional 2 km section leads to the tip of the peninsula. The craters and plant life are sensitive to disturbance – please keep to the signposted footpaths.



Hólastígur

TRACK MARKED WITH POSTS

An old track between Gufuskálar and Saxhóll. This route is best followed in two stages. There is a car park half way where the trail meets the Móðulækur stream (signposted Hólastígur).



HÓLASTÍGUR

7. Móðulækur – Saxhóll

2 KM / 1 HRS.

Cross the bridge over the Móðulækur stream. An easy walk through the lava leads to the Saxhóll crater, which erupted 3–4000 years ago. Keep to the path when climbing to the lip of the crater to avoid damaging this sensitive environment. Steep sections with loose lava. Magnificent views at the destination. Return by the same route.

HÓLASTÍGUR

8. Móðulækur – Gufuskálar

3 KM / 1.5–2 HRS.

From the car park by the Móðulækur stream, pass the mast crossing a flat area where there are interesting formations caused by frost. Descend to the fish storage huts above Gufuskálar.

9. Sauðhóll

2 KM / 1 HRS.

You can see an old shelter for sheep on Sauðhóll.



10. Rauðhóll

TRAIL WITH POSTS – CIRCULAR ROUTE
2.3 KM / 1 HRS.

A trail marked with posts leads from the Eysteinsdalur road to Rauðhóll, the source of the Presthraun lava field which flowed into the sea between Hellissandur and Skarðsvík. The track to Rauðhóll is 1 km each way. An interesting alternative follows the Móðulækur stream where there are potholes. Lava channels lead from Rauðhóll down to charming, reedy tarns. The recommended route goes down the lava channels and returns to by the stream.

11. Klukkufoss waterfall

TRAIL WITH POSTS
600 M / 20 MINS.

Start from the Eysteinsdalur road. Short walk to the basalt outcrop and Klukkufoss waterfall where there are impressive columnar basalt formations.

12. Snekkjufoss waterfall

TRAIL WITH POSTS
500 M / 20 MINS. EACH WAY

Start from the Eysteinsdalur road. The trail to Snekkjufoss waterfall is marked with posts. A short walk from the road.

13. Sjónarhóll

TRAIL WITH POSTS
300 M / 10 MINS.

A track from the Eysteinsdalur road marked with posts leading up to an old crater. Magnificent views.



14. Hreggnasi

TRAIL WITH POSTS
1 KM / 40 MINS. EACH WAY

The path to Hreggnasi starts from the footbridge over the stream at the entrance to Eysteinsdalur. Trail marked with posts onto Hreggnasi (469 m). Fairly steep but generally easy route. There are steep cliffs on the other side of the summit.

15. Saxhóll – Bárðarkista

5 KM EACH WAY, 3–4 HRS.

The best way onto Bárðarkista is from the Vættir rocks by the stream opposite the start of the track to Saxhóll. Start from the Útnesvegur car park. Walk over the moorland beside the stream Saxhóllslækur then go further south to avoid the gill south of Bárðarkista. Turn north up onto the summit. It is generally easy to reach the top from this approach. Bárðarkista is partly surrounded by steep crags – not for those who have a fear of heights.

16. Eyra Circle

TRACK MARKED WITH POSTS – CIRCULAR ROUTE
3 KM / 2 HRS.

Two interesting tracks lead from the car park near Lambhagatjarnir. One is described in route 6, while the other is a circular route around Eyra. This is an easy, posted trail, leading down

towards the shore, mostly on flat, ropy lava. Beautiful tarns lie close to the remarkable shore in spectacular surroundings.



17. Beruvíkurbær

TRAIL WITH POSTS – CIRCULAR ROUTE
1.5 KM / 1 HRS.

Start from the car park at Beruvík. Pass the farm ruins and skirt the ponds. An easy, well-marked stroll over flat areas of grassland and lava with delicate moss-covered stretches.

18. Stutthalastígur

TRAIL WITH POSTS
600 M / 20 MINS.

A path between Klofningsrétt and Beruvík. Interesting track through attractive lava.



19. Klofningsrétt – Hólahólar

TRAIL WITH POSTS
4 KM / 2 HRS.

A path following the Beruvík shoreline. Beruvík was inhabited until the middle of the 20th century and Hólahólar was a busy farm. Walk on grassland along the changing coastline. A stream must be crossed on the way. Pass Litlálón, the ruins of a smallholding.

20. Hólahólar Circle

TRAIL WITH POSTS – CIRCULAR ROUTE
2.5 KM / 1 HRS.

Start from Hólavogur and head towards Hrafnabjörg. The walk is over grassland with sheep tracks, past ponds and ruins to the site of the old farm at Hólahólar. Turn towards the sea and return along the shore crossing fields of boulders. An optional diversion leads to Dimmugjóta.



21. Hólavogur – Dritvík – Djúpálónssandur

TRAIL WITH POSTS
4.5 KM / 2.5 HRS.

A pleasant footpath along the coast at Dritvík. The coves and inlets along this attractive stretch of coast are lined with cliffs. The path through the lava is generally distinct – it is an old route that has now been marked with posts.

22. Djúpálónssandur – Dritvík

TRAIL WITH POSTS
1 KM / 20 MINS. EACH WAY

Dritvík is only accessible on foot. This is a popular path between Djúpálónssandur and Dritvík, but proceed with caution as there may be heavy surf on the beach with a strong

undertow. Leave the car park and descend the Nautastígur path to the boulders where fishermen used to test and demonstrate their strength. From there, go along the beach to Sessar whence a marked path heads to Dritvík. Dritvík was once home for up to 600 seasonal workers. An optional diversion leads to Suðurbarðinn where there is a labyrinth. Return by the same route.



23. Dritvík – Sandhólar

3 KM / 1.5 HRS.

Follow the old fishermen's route past Beruvíkurhraun lava field to Sandhólar. This walk takes 1½ hours from Dritvík. The total length from Djúpálónssandur to Sandhólar is 4 km. Many people say the walk is more attractive in the opposite direction.

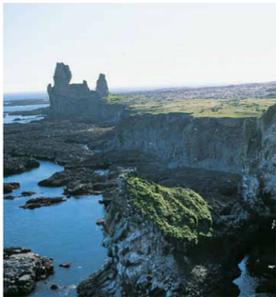


24. Djúpálónssandur – Einarlón – Malarrif

TRAIL WITH POSTS
6 KM / 2–3 HRS. EACH WAY

Coastal trail passing Einarlón. There are many ruins in the area around Einarlón. The colourful cliffs are eye-catching with exposed strata. A lighthouse (1946) stands at Malarrif, which was a working farm until 1997. The trail crosses grassland, some rather coarse.

Take only pictures and memories, leave nothing behind!



25. Svalþúfa – Lóndrangar

(THEN ON TO MALARRIF) TRAIL WITH POSTS
SVALÞÚFA. – LÓNDR. 1 KM / 30 MINS.
SVALÞÚFA – MALARRIF 1.6 KM / 1 HR.

A 1 km trail from the car park to Lóndrangar and back. Walk up onto Svalþúfa, a location rich in folklore, where there is teeming bird life that is best observed using binoculars. The path to Lóndrangar descends the slope then follows the shoreline. The final section passes sensitive moss-covered areas – please keep to the path. A number of structures date back to the period when boats rowed out from Drangavogur. Return along the marked path a little further inland, or continue along the coast to Malarrif, ½ km further on.



30. Arnarstapi – Hellnar

TRAIL WITH POSTS
2.5 KM / 45–60 MINS.

The area between Arnarstapi and Hellnar, from the sea up to the glacier, is a large lava field known as Hellnahraun. The track Neðstagata crosses the lava following the coast. Evidence of powerful natural forces is clear to see in the shape of the landscape, scoured rock faces and canyons. Kittiwakes sit on nests in the gills around Arnarstapi. The coast is a protected area with unique cliff formations.

31. Sölvahamar

1.5 KM / 50 MINS.

The walk to Sölvahamar from Arnarstapi takes under one hour and is well worthwhile.



26-28. Efstivegur

PARTLY MARKED WITH POSTS

In olden days, many busy tracks lay at the foot of the glacier. One of them was Efstivegur. An 11 km marked section of this old route lies between (26) Beruvíkurhraun og Skeiðsandur. Shorter, easily followed sections run from (28) Háahraun to Purkhólar (4 km), and from (27) Purkhólar to Lónland in Beruvíkurhraun (4.5 km).

29. Snæfellsjökull Glacier

3–5 HRS.

Hiking up Snæfellsjökull takes about 3-5 hours. It is not recommended for inexperienced hikers to attempt hiking up this glacier. People who intend to take on Snæfellsjökull are strongly encouraged to obtain information regarding trails and hiking conditions before setting off, and to proceed with extreme caution. In the course of summer large crevasses are formed in the glacier, which render it unsuitable for hikers.



33. Búðir Church – Frambúðir

TRAIL WITH POSTS 500 M EACH WAY, 30 MINS IN TOTAL

A delightful path to Frambúðir where the spirit of the past lives on in the ancient relics. The trail starts from Búðir Church. Instead of retracing your steps, return to the church along a path marked with posts along the coast.

34. Búðir – Búðaklettur – Miðhús

TO BÚÐAKLETTUR AND BACK TO BÚÐIR, 4 KM IN TOTAL, 2–3 HRS.

FROM BÚÐIR TO MIÐHÚS, 6 KM / 2–3 HRS.

The route to Búðaklettur and Búðahellir follows Klettskata. The trail around Búðaklettur and on up to the crater is marked with posts. This is a very fragile area – please keep to the trail. The route continues optionally along Klettskata to Miðhús, an additional 2 km.



35. Búðir – Miðhús via Jaðargata

6 KM / 2–3 HRS.

Jaðargata is an old track that follows the edge of the lava field to the large outcrop south of Miðhúsatún where it joins Klettskata. It is now frequently indistinct. Allow two hours to walk from Búðir. The walk from Axlarhólar to Miðhús takes one hour.

Information on the Walk Route Table

- Short walks, 2 hours or less
- Longer walks, 2 hours or more

DIFFICULTY LEVEL



EASY - Generally smooth paths, without any obstacles to speak of.



DEMANDING - Longer or shorter rough and difficult stretches such as unbridged streams, loose gravel, uneven terrain, etc.



DIFFICULT - Obstacles and difficulties such as unbridged rivers and steep terrain. Can be dangerous in poor conditions for the inexperienced.

Let us make a habit of preserving nature

- » *Respect the land and keep it tidy.*
- » *Keep to the marked trails – leave the ground as you found it.*
- » *Roads are for driving on – please do not leave them.*
- » *Leave plants and animals in peace – this is their home.*
- » *Observe the park's regulations and obey rangers' instructions.*
- » *Enjoy the natural peace and tranquillity.*
- » *Be at one with your surroundings.*

Route	Name of Path	Distance	Time	Difficulty Level	Round Path	Posts	Cairns
1	Írskrbrunnur - Gufuskálavör - Fiskbyrgi	2 km	1 h		Yes	x	
2	Móðuvör - Skarðsvík - Öndverðarnes	4 km	2-3 h		No		x
3	Öndverðarnes - Skálasnagi	2 km	1 h		No		
4	Skálasnagi - Beruvík	6 km	3 h		No		
5	Öndverðarneshólar	6 km	3 h		Yes	x	x
5	Vatnsborg	2 km	40 min		No	x	
6	Öndverðarnes um Neshraun	6 km	3 h		No		x
7	Hólastígur: Móðulækur - Saxhóll	2 km	1 h		No	x	
8	Hólastígur: Móðulækur - Gufuskálar	3 km	1,5-2 h		No	x	
9	Sauðhóll	2 km	1 h		No	x	
10	Rauðhóll	2,3 km	1 h		Yes	x	
11	Klukkufoss	600 m	20 min		No	x	
12	Snekkjufoss	500 m	20 min		No	x	
13	Sjónarhóll	300 m	10 min		No	x	
14	Hreggnasi	1 km	40 min		No	x	
15	Saxhóll - Bárðarkista	5 km	3-4 h		No		
16	Eyrahringur	3 km	2 h		Yes	x	
17	Beruvíkurbær	1,5 km	1 h		Yes	x	
18	Stutthalastígur	600 m	20 min		No	x	

Route	Name of Path	Distance	Time	Difficulty Level	Round Path	Posts	Cairns
19	Klofningsrétt - Hólahólar	4 km	2 h		No	x	
20	Hólahólahringur	2,5 km	1 h		Yes	x	
21	Hólavogur - Djúpálónssandur	4,5 km	2,5 h		No	x	
22	Djúpalónssandur - Dritvík	1 km	20 min		No	x	
23	Dritvík - Sandhólar	3 km	1,5 h		No		
24	Djúpalónssandur - Malarrif	6 km	2-3 h		No	x	
25	Svalþúfa - Malarrif	1,6 km	1 h		No	x	
25	Svalþúfa - Lóndrangar	1 km	30 min		No	x	
26-28	EFSTIVEGUR						
26	Skeiðsandur - Beruvíkurhraun	11 km			No	x	
27	Beruvíkurhraun - Purkhólar	4,5 km	2-3 h		No		
28	Purkhólar - Háahraun	4 km	1-2 h		No	x	
29	Snæfellsjökull		3-5 h		No		
30	Arnarstapi - Hellnar	2,5 km	1 h		No	x	
31	Sölvahamar	1,5 km	50 min		No		
32	Bárðarlaug	300 m	10 min		No	x	
33	Búðir - Frambúðir	500 m	15 min		No	x	
34	Búðir - Miðhús (Klettskata)	6 km	2-3 h		No		x
34	Búðir - Búðaklettur	2 km	1 h		No		x
35	Búðir - Miðhús um Jaðargötu	6 km	2-3 h		No		